certain areas, speculative buying and tight availability in international market.

(b) to (c) Government is constantly monitoring the situation. The import of cotton has been put under OGL at 'nil' rate of duty about 30,000 MT of Viscose Staple Fibre at 'nil' rate of duty has been permitted to be imported, to supplement the requirement of raw material; the ceiling on stock of cotton to be held by mills and traders has been imposed to regulate the availability and prices of cotton. So far only one lakh bales of Bengaldeshi cotton has been permitted for export out of announced quantity of 5 lakh bales keeping in view the present situation.

Export of handicrafts and handloom products

339. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1073 given in the Rajya Sabha on 13th December, 1994 and state:

(a) the achievement made in the export of handloom and handicrafts so far; and

(b) the steps taken to increase the export of handicrafts and handloom products?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) The target fixed for the export of handicrafts and handloom products during 1994-95 in value terms and the achievements made so far are as under:—

	Handicrafts including handknotted carpets	Handloom/fabrics/ made ups etc.
Target	Rs. 3870.00 crores	Rs. 1470.00 crores
Achievement (upto Jan., 95)	Rs. 3540.70 crores	Rs. 1316.31 crores

(b) The steps taken to increase the export of handicraft and handlooms products are as under:—

(i) organising of buyer-seller meets;

(ii) sponsoring of sales-cum-study team abroad;

(iii) participation in international fairs and exhibitions;

(iv) overseas publicity and publication of catalogues;

(v) organisation of Indian Handicrafts and Gift Fair, Carpet Expo and Handloom Expo in the country;

(vi) conducting of workshop-seminars at important production centres;

उत्तर प्रदेश में विद्युतकरघों के आधुनिकीकरण के लिए वित्तीय सहायता

340. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव :**
चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह :

क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार को उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की ओर से उ० प्र० राज्य को विद्युतकरघों के आधुनिकीकरण हेतु वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान किए जाने का कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुआ है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ; और